



# FIRST TIME, EVERY TIME.

POOR QUALITY SPECIMENS DELAY DETECTION  
OF SERIOUS CONDITIONS IN NEWBORNS.

*"It was very important to us that our baby's first  
specimen was collected right the first time!"*

-Parent of an infant with a disorder from the newborn screening panel

## Tips on collecting a GOOD FIRST SPECIMEN:

1. Obtain one drop of blood after appropriate preparation and puncture
2. Dry form in a FLAT position for 3-4 hours
3. Mail within 24 hours of collection



## SPOT CHECK: What does your spot look like?



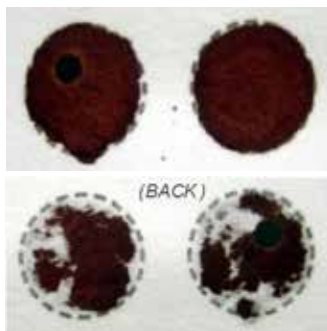
### SATISFACTORY sample

Complete saturation and  
quantity. No abrasions.



### UNSATISFACTORY samples

Incomplete saturation:



On back: clotted and layered

Quantity NOT sufficient:



Specimen abraded:



## If you need help, please contact us.

DHEC Newborn Screening Follow Up: (803) 898-0593

DHEC Lab: (803) 896-0891

Email: [newbornscreening@dhec.sc.gov](mailto:newbornscreening@dhec.sc.gov)

You can also find helpful tools on our website at  
[www.scdhec.gov/newbornmetabolicscreening](http://www.scdhec.gov/newbornmetabolicscreening) or  
[www.babysfirsttest.org](http://www.babysfirsttest.org)